

PITH AND POINT.

Beware of the interest of the man who would make capital out of you.—*Ram's Horn.*

In the long run selfishness is more likely to get what it deserves than what it wants.—*Puck.*

He—"You're the apple of my eye." She—"Oh! A greening?" He—"No, a seek-no-further."—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

Great actors nowadays have their own private cars, and even peripatetic tragedians make long journeys on the sleepers.—*Boston Transcript.*

"Bridget," said the lady, "you sleep too much." "Faith, ma'am," retorted Bridget, "ye're mistaken. 'Tis not that. I sleep too much, but I sleep very slow, ma'am."—*Philadelphia Press.*

Whew.—Miss—"You say you are well recommended?" Maid—"Indeed, ma'am, I have 39 excellent references." Mistress—"And you have been in domestic service?" Maid—"Two years, ma'am."—*N. Y. World.*

Bess—"They say Maud Goody kissed a man at the Joneses' lawn party the other night." Jack—"That's true." Bess—"How do you know?" Jack—"I had it from her own lips."—*Philadelphia Press.*

An Inquiring Mind.—A little East End girl who had had breakfast the other morning looked at the last mouthful of her share long and earnestly, as she poised it on her fork. Then she passed it out of sight. But the mystery still engrossed her mind.

"Daddy," she said, "what was hash when it was alive?"—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

MAKE BUGS BUTTERFLIES.

People Who Do a Good Business in Counterfeiting the Insects for the Market.

To take a common butterfly or moth and transform it into a beautifully marked specimen worth a good price, is the business of the "butterfly duster," says the New York Press, and so well is the work performed that only an expert of lifelong experience can detect the fraud.

The markings are produced by applying to the wings a fine dust by means of a spray, and these prepared powders are kept in every shade of color ready for use.

A certain dealer, who was absolutely above suspicion, and used to show, by the way in which he refurbished damaged specimens of rare moths and butterflies, that this "dusting" could be done to perfection.

One of the devices of the "fakers" for obtaining much value from monstrosities is to take one bit from one insect and another from another, and then to join all the fragments together, so as to make one apparently perfect specimen. This combining can be done so perfectly as to defy detection, even with the microscope.

Many insects that are common in Europe are very rare and worth large sums if they were genuine, and in the United States, but there are minute points of difference that even the amateur collector can detect. But the astute dealer, with all his appliances, removes the points of differences with the result that hundreds of collectors have in their cases specimens worth large sums if they were genuine that were caught and then dusted, glued, dyed and generally manipulated.

There have been great developments in fraud of late years. Say that an insect that has not been seen in this country for years is found in a given locality, and scores of well-to-do enthusiasts will go to the place in the hope of catching another specimen—artful ones get hold of living specimens of some insect rare here but common abroad, turn one in a given district and then set a report of its capture about. They, in point of fact, "plant" specimens here and there and then lead the unsuspecting collector to the spot and offer "faked" specimens.

Even common caterpillars have by means of dyes been wholly transformed. Hair and other artificial colors are added, so as to transform them into the exact likeness of extremely rare species and these are sold for considerable sums.

But, most astonishing of all, there is a notable dealer who makes it his boast that he has sold at high prices hundreds of specimens of his artificial chrysalis—a chrysalis made of India rubber and other things—from which was expected to emerge by the innocent purchaser one of the rarest moths known. Thousands of collectors—and not always youthful ones, either—have been gulled by the India rubber chrysalis.

In no line do the men who can make an India rubber chrysalis and dye the "hair" of caterpillars show more activity than in that of making rare birds' eggs to order for the young collector. The sham eggs are of two kinds. In some cases there is a great natural resemblance save as to one or two markings, between eggs that are very common and others that are equally rare, and in this case the common egg has supplied to it the markings that are peculiar to the rare one. This is done so artfully that the color is added in all but indelible, and there are cases where other natural markings are removed so entirely with a combination of chemical acids that only the microscope in the hands of an expert can detect where they have been.

But much more ingenuity is expected on the class of shams where the shells have been absolutely fabricated. By means of molds, pigments and a material which perfectly resembles the natural shell substance a rare egg is made and so well is it done—especially by the French dealers—that even experts often have been deceived.

The White House Doors. For years the two beautiful doors at the entrance of the white house have been grained in imitation of black walnut, but in the spring cleaning this year Col. Bingham ordered the paint scraped off so as to have the doors refinished in their original native condition, and is now trying to find out what fool had them painted.—*Detroit Press Press.*

AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

STEEL TRACK ROADS.

Utility of the System Has Been Demonstrated by Experiments Here and Abroad.

The illustration shows a section of a steel track road without wooden superstructure of any kind. The steel track here indicated consists of a built section as shown, in the detail drawing (Fig. 2), made up of a steel channel riveted on either side to angle irons. This gives a flat surface eight inches wide for the wheels of the vehicle, the rails being laid at a convenient distance apart to accommodate vehicles of a standard gauge. It will be seen that there is a projecting flange which tends to keep the wheels from leaving the track, but being not more than half an inch high this flange does not prevent turning out easily when necessary. The rails are well fitted underneath with cement to afford a continuous bearing, while the projecting flanges are securely imbedded in the concrete of the roadbed, insuring rigid immobility.

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

TRACK AND SECTION OF ROAD.

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

Fig. 7

Fig. 8

Fig. 9

Fig. 10

Fig. 11

Fig. 12

Fig. 13

Fig. 14

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Fig. 33

Fig. 34

Fig. 35

Fig. 36

Fig. 37

Fig. 38

Fig. 39

Fig. 40

Fig. 41

Fig. 42

Fig. 43

Fig. 44

Fig. 45

PRIVATE DAIRYING.

Where It Is Conducted Properly the Results Are Bound to Be Reasonably Satisfactory.

As a matter of fact the private dairyman has a decided advantage over the creamery butter-maker, so says Mrs. Carrie Wilson in a paper read before the Vermont State Dairy association. He controls the feeding of his cows and the handling of the milk from the time it is drawn from the cow until the butter is made. The patrons of the creamery always have among them one or more who are not as careful as clearly in their methods as they might be, nor does the carrying of the milk or cream over to three miles on a hot day add to its desirable qualities; but the creamery buttermaker is an expert; he is methodical, exact, and knows how to offset to some extent the carelessness of his patrons. Hence his product is more even in quality and flavor than that of the average private dairy. If all private dairies were conducted on the same lines as the most successful creameries, then the product of the former would in nearly every instance excel that of the latter. This is not written in the way of disparaging the creamery. Quite the contrary. It has been the main factor in improving the quality of the dairy herds, the methods of the dairyman and the quality of the butter made in this and other states. It would have required long years, perhaps a generation, to bring about the improvements in dairying that the creamery has done in the past ten years. Only wish that every poor buttermaker in the state would become patrons of a creamery. It would not only help the quality of the butter market, but it would be a great help to the market by ridding it of the vast amount of wretched stuff which now crowds it and depresses prices. But the private dairyman, just the same, has advantages which the creamery cannot, from the nature of the business, enjoy.

LOCK FOR MILK CANS.

A Device That May Prove Quite Popular in Large Cities Where Petty Thieves Abound.

Many housekeepers know by experience how disagreeable it is to wake up in the morning and find the milk can and contents gone, or perhaps the drained can is left to tell the tale of a petty thief. Here is a cheap and simple device which will prevent the theft of the milk without making it any more

difficult for the housekeeper to take in the pail in the morning. The cut shows a small casing, which may be attached to the door frame at the right height to place the pail within convenient reach. A small opening in the top of the casing allows the shank of the angle iron on the cap to be inserted, while a sliding catch at the rear of the casing engages a notch cut in the side of the shank. The latch extends backward to the edge of the door, so that when the latter is closed it prevents the latch being drawn backward to release the shank. Besides preventing theft this device also supports the can in a position to remove the danger of tipping it over with the foot, and there will be no milk stains to clean up, as is often the case when the can is placed on the steps. The inventor is Louis Munch, of Philadelphia.—*Chicago Daily News.*

Cows in Hot, Dry Weather.

Cows that are forced to undergo annual periods of starvation, during the annual droughts, must of necessity gradually deteriorate in milking powers. If cow owners would but consider how the poor animals must suffer toiling through the blazing heat trying to gather enough food to satisfy their hunger from the sunburned pastures, common humanity would move them to relieve them. But they do not think, they do not consider, more is the pity. We are glad to know, however, that the number of such inconsiderate cow owners is growing less every year. The practice of providing green food to supplement the pastures during the drought is rapidly extending among cow owners, and especially among owners of Jersey cows.—*Jersey Bulletin.*

Many Fruits on One Tree.

George Feby, residing near the College of St. James, Washington county, has a plum tree on which he expects to grow, besides plums, peaches, almonds, apricots and nectarines. He saved the top off the plum tree and grafted on an almond branch, on which he has now budded peaches, apricots and nectarines. Some time ago he bored a hole through an elm tree and inserted a growing Concord grapevine, which, when it had grown so it filled the hole, was cut off at one end. The vine continued to grow, being fed with sap from the elm tree, and bore luscious grapes.—*Baltimore Sun.*

Bees Carry Heavy Weight.

Observations made to test this question showed that bees can carry with ease twice their weight in honey. Several bees were caught as they returned to their hives laden with honey, and, after inclosing them in a little box, they were carefully weighed. When the bees unloaded their honey, they were again caught, placed in the same box and weighed a second time. This experiment showed that the bees when laden weighed three times as much as when empty. It was therefore proved that a bee can carry twice its own weight in honey, and can fly very long distances with that weight.—*Bural World.*

How is the strawberry patch set last spring? Have you kept the weeds out? If not, it is time you were about it.

The Earth's Cloud-Belt.

A writer makes a vivid picture of the great belt of clouds, some 300 miles in breadth, which surrounds the earth a little north of the equator. Within this belt rain almost incessantly falls, sometimes in sheets, and the wind seldom stirs. Before the invention of steamships vessels becalmed in the "cloud-belt" sometimes drifted helplessly for weeks. Even now the crossing of this belt, where everything is surcharged with moisture, is a disagreeable experience for voyagers going from the North to the South Atlantic ocean, or vice versa. The belt can be traced across equatorial Africa and across the American isthmus, and the great rivers, Amazon, Orinoco, Niger, Nile and Congo, arise in these rain-soaked regions, which are like exhaustless reservoirs. The belt of the equatorial cloud-belt is connected with the trade winds, and in the course of a year it oscillates north and south over a distance equal to about three times its own breadth.—*Knowledge.*

Bismarck's Birthday Presents.

Despite his exile from office, Prince Bismarck's admirers show no falling off, if we may judge from the list of gifts that marked his birthday. The number of letters, telegrams and presents, indeed, seems to have been larger than ever. Among the latter figured flowers in profusion, cakes, cigars, cheeses and sausages, casks of wine, barrels of beer and dozens of assorted liquors. The accustomed host of governors' eggs from the faithful ones of Jever was not wanting, while Bismarckburg, in Togoland, sent a tribute of crows' eggs and coffee. Some Indian prince thought a cage of doves an appropriate offering. The oddest present perhaps was that of a bicycle from several admirers.—*London Chronicle.*

A Decaying Town.

The decadence of the little rural towns of Connecticut is well illustrated by the case of Warren, one of the smallest of the rural places in Litchfield county. A resident, writing to one of the newspapers in that section, notes that the village storekeeper is to remove to Cornwall Bridge, a railroad station in the adjoining town of Cornwall, and the writer adds: "We don't know what Warren is coming to. No doctor, no parson, no store, and, by and by, no school. There are but few of us left now."—*Boston Herald.*

Derivation of Settle.

An amusing instance of irresponsible derivation is given in the "Dictionary of Architecture," published under the auspices of the Architectural Publication society, under the head of "Settle," which is stated to be "perhaps derived from 'seat-all-people,' Ex temp. Henry VIII, at the 'Green Dragon' public-house, Combe St. Nicholas, Somersetshire; and settle, which Prof. Skeat calls 'an arbitrary variation of settle,' is defined to be a stone bench, the word being derived from the Anglo-Saxon sett, a seat.—*Notes and Queries.*

Patrick's Bargain.

Lady (suddenly returned from Europe)—Patrick, what does this mean? I left you in charge of our residence while abroad, and I find the front yard filled with clothes-lines and every line full of clothes. Our beautiful place looks like a Chinese laundry. You promised me that your wife would not take in washing.

Patrick—We haven't takin' in any washin'—mum. We've only been takin' in hangin' out clothes.—*N. Y. Weekly.*

Warning.

"What's that terrible noise overhead?" asked the startled youth as the clock struck 12.

"I thought you had been in the navy," answered the maiden under her breath.

"So I have."

"And don't understand that noise?"

"No."

"Well, that's papa clearing for action."—*Yonkers Statesman.*

Foreign Seizures.

First European Statesman.—The United States is becoming altogether too arrogant of late. It is time for Europe to unite in some aggressive action.

Second Statesman.—Well, I understand that a delegation of our impoverished nobility is ready to start at once.—*Up to Date.*

War Into Africa.

"Your wife is a sweetest strong-minded, isn't she, Littlejohn?"

"Strong minded? A furniture-polish peddler came here yesterday, and in five minutes' talk she sold him some polish she had made herself."—*Detroit Free Press.*

THE MARKETS.

New York, Aug. 28.

CATTLE—Native Steers..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
COTTON—Middling..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
FLOUR—Winter Wheat..... 2 1/2 @ 2 3/4
WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 1 1/2 @ 1 3/4
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 62
SHRIMP—Choice..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
PORK—Mess New..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2

ST. LOUIS.

COTTON—Middling..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
BEEVES—Steers..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
CALVES—(per 100)..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
HOGS—Fair to Choice..... 6 1/2 @ 7 1/2
SHEEP—Choice..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
FLOUR—Patents (new)..... 2 1/2 @ 2 3/4
WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 1 1/2 @ 1 3/4
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 62
OATS—No. 2..... 30 @ 32
TOBACCO—Leaf Burley..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
HAY—Clear Timothy (new)..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
BACON—Clear Rib..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
PORK—Standard Mess (new)..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
LARD—Prime Steam..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2

CHICAGO.

CATTLE—Native Steers..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
SHEEP—Fair to Choice..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
FLOUR—Spring Patents..... 2 1/2 @ 2 3/4
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring..... 1 1/2 @ 1 3/4
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 62
OATS—No. 2..... 30 @ 32
PORK—Mess..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2

KANSAS CITY.

CATTLE—Native Steers..... 4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
HOGS—Fair to Choice..... 6 1/2 @ 7 1/2
WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 1 1/2 @ 1 3/4
OATS—No. 2 White..... 24 @ 25 1/2
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 62

NEW ORLEANS.

FLOUR—High Grade..... 3 1/2 @ 4
CORN—Western..... 17 1/2 @ 18
HAY—Choice..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
PORK—Standard Mess..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
BACON—Short Rib Sides..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
COTTON—Middling..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2

LOUISVILLE.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 1 1/2 @ 1 3/4
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 62
OATS—No. 2 Mixed..... 22 1/2 @ 24
BACON—Short Rib..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2
COTTON—Middling..... 12 1/2 @ 13 1/2

Why Yucatan Chili Tonic (improved) is Superior to all So-Called Tasteless Tonics. Because it is acceptable to the most delicate stomach. Does not sicken, nauseate or produce a bad taste. Each dose contains the same proportion of medicine. Half the medicine does not stick to the bottle. No shaking of the bottle required—the component parts are thoroughly assimilated. It has a pleasant taste. Formula: Quinine, Iron and Peppermint. Drives out Malarial Poisons! Purifies the Blood! Strengthens the Nerves! Produces a hearty appetite! The Best Tonic Known! Price, 50 cents. Cure guaranteed. For sale by druggists.

Cause for Thankfulness.

A brief note from a Billville district reads: "Our son John has come home from the Philippines on a furlough and one leg. The latter means a pension for life—thank the Lord."—*Atlanta Constitution.*

Fun in a Restaurant.

Chef—That's a swell order. Who is it for? Waiter—Judge Courtwright. "Oh, I see. There's going to be a dinner in his honor."—*Chicago Evening News.*

More Cheap Excursions to Colorado.

Special Trains, one night out to Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo via the Great Rock Island Route, will leave Chicago August 21, Sept. 4 and 18, at 4:45 p. m. On these dates excursion tickets from Chicago and Missouri River points to Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Glenwood Springs, Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah, will be sold at rate of one regular fare plus \$2.00 for round trip, return limit Oct. 31, 1900. Tickets also good on regular trains. For full information, berth reservations and beautiful booklet "Colorado and the Mountains," sent free, address John Sebastian, G. P. A., Chicago.

It is not considered good form for a red-haired girl to ride a white bicycle. This is important should be remembered.—*Danville Commercial.*

The Best Prescription for Chills and Fever is a bottle of Grove's Tasteless Chili Tonic. This simply iron and quinine in tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

It is better to make mistakes in trying than to make the mistake of not trying at all.—*Ram's Horn.*

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

We are ever ready to confess our imperfections so long as others are ready to contradict us.—*Ram's Horn.*

Sweat and fruit acids will not discolor goods dyed with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES. Sold by all druggists.

It doesn't pay a man to be honest if he is honest only for pay.—*Chicago Daily News.*

KIDNEY TROUBLES OF WOMEN

Miss Frederick's Letters Show How She Relieved on Mrs. Pinkham and Was Cured.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have a yellow, mucky complexion, feel tired and have bearing down pains. Menstrues have not appeared for three months; sometimes am troubled with a white discharge. Also have kidney and bladder trouble.

I have been this way for a long time, and feel so miserable I thought I would write to you and see if you could do me any good."—Miss ENNA FREDERICK, Troy, Ohio, Aug. 6, 1899.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound according to directions, and can say I have not felt so well for years as I do at present. Before taking your medicine a more miserable person you never saw. I could not eat or sleep, and did not care to talk with any one. Now I feel so well I cannot be grateful enough to you for what you have done for me."—Miss ENNA FREDERICK, Troy, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1899.

Backache Cured.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I write to thank you for the good Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done me. It is the only medicine I have found that helped me. I doctored with one of the best physicians in the city of New York, but received no benefit. I had been ailing for about sixteen years, was so weak and nervous that I could hardly walk; I had continued pain in my back and was troubled with leucorrhoea. Menstrues were irregular and painful. Words cannot express the benefit I have derived from the use of your medicine. I heartily recommend it to all suffering women."—Mrs. MARY BASHINGBROOK, Windsor, Pa.

Readers of this paper desiring to buy anything advertised in its columns should insist upon having what they ask for, refusing all substitutes or imitations.

Use Certain Chill Cure. Price, 50c.

LADIES! When Doctors and others fail to relieve free. Mrs. H. A. Mowen, Milwaukee, Wis.

ILLINOIS FARMS FOR SALE IN TRACTS OF 40 to 400 ACRES. G. W. FITZPATRICK, NEWTON, ILL.

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